

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2628

AN ACT

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area in Alabama, and for other purposes.

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1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Muscle Shoals Na-
3 tional Heritage Area Study Act of 2002”.

4 **SEC. 2. STUDY.**

5 The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with
6 appropriate State historic preservation officers, States his-
7 torical societies, and other appropriate organizations, shall
8 conduct a study regarding the suitability and feasibility
9 of designating the study area described in section 3 as
10 the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area. The study
11 shall include analysis, documentation, and determination
12 regarding whether the study area—

13 (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and
14 cultural resources that together represent distinctive
15 aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition,
16 conservation, interpretation, and continuing use, and
17 are best managed through partnerships among pub-
18 lic and private entities and by combining diverse and
19 sometimes noncontiguous resources and active com-
20 munities;

21 (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and
22 folklife that are a valuable part of the national story;

23 (3) provides outstanding opportunities to con-
24 serve natural, historic, cultural, or scenic features;

25 (4) provides outstanding recreational and edu-
26 cational opportunities;

1 (5) contains resources important to the identi-
2 fied theme or themes of the study area that retain
3 a degree of integrity capable of supporting interpre-
4 tation;

5 (6) includes residents, business interests, non-
6 profit organizations, and local and State govern-
7 ments that are involved in the planning, have devel-
8 oped a conceptual financial plan that outlines the
9 roles of all participants (including the Federal Gov-
10 ernment), and have demonstrated support for the
11 concept of a national heritage area;

12 (7) has a potential management entity to work
13 in partnership with residents, business interests,
14 nonprofit organizations, and local and State govern-
15 ments to develop a national heritage area consistent
16 with continued local and State economic activity;
17 and

18 (8) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-
19 ported by the public.

20 **SEC. 3. BOUNDARIES OF THE STUDY AREA.**

21 The study area referred to in section 2 shall be com-
22 prised of the following:

23 (1) The part of the Tennessee River's water-
24 shed in northern Alabama.

1 (2) The cities of Florence, Sheffield,
2 Tuscumbia, and Muscle Shoals City, Alabama.

3 (3) The towns of Anderson, Cherokee,
4 Courtland, Leighton, Lexington, Littleville, Red
5 Bay, Rogersville, Russellville, Town Creek, and Wa-
6 terloo, Alabama, and their environs.

7 (4) Colbert, Lauderdale, Franklin, and Law-
8 rence Counties, Alabama.

9 (5) Other areas that have heritage aspects that
10 are similar to those aspects that are in the areas de-
11 scribed in paragraphs (1) through (4) and which are
12 adjacent to or in the vicinity of those areas.

13 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

14 Not later than 3 fiscal years after the date on which
15 funds are first made available for this Act, the Secretary
16 of the Interior shall submit to the Committee on Resources
17 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
18 Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on
19 the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the
20 study.

Passed the House of Representatives April 30, 2002.

Attest:

Clerk.